

## Message Text

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 833

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB DA US

SUBJ: MORE ON NIELSEN VISIT TO BAL HARBOUR

REF: COPENHAGEN 610

SUMMARY: SUCCESS OF NIELSEN VISIT TO AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING CONFIRMED IN FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY. POSSIBLY-CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS WERE AVOIDED IN CONVERSATIONS WITH MEANY BUT WERE DISCUSSED WITH OTHER AFL-CIO OFFICIALS. SWEDES ARE THOUGHT TO BE NOT TOTALLY HAPPY WITH VISIT. END SUMMARY.

1) LABOR ATTACHE FINALLY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH KJELD AAKJAER, DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO) INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY, THOMAS NIELSEN'S MEETINGS WITH AFL-CIO LEADERS DURING RECENT AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING. ACCORDING TO AAKJAER, NIELSEN HAD GONE TO FLORIDA WITHOUT IDEAS OF INFLUENCING AFL-CIO ATTITUDES ON MAJOR ISSUES. AFTER PRELIMINARY EFFORT TO DISCUSS ILO IN PRIVATE MEETING WITH AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY, NIELSEN DROPPED ANY THOUGHT OF HAVING SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE ON EAST-WEST ISSUES OR ORIT AND CONFIRMED HIM-  
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SELF TO NON-CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS.

2) LATER CONVERSATIONS WITH BERT SEIDMAN, GLENN WATTS AND MICHAEL BOGGS WERE MORE PRODUCTIVE, AAKJAER SAID, AND THERE WERE PLANS FOR BETTER COOPERATION WITH THE US WITHIN THE ILO. NIELSEN POINTED OUT TO AFL-CIO REPS THAT LO'S REPRESENTATIVE AT ILO IN 1975 HAD VOTED COUNTRARY TO NIELSEN'S INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PLO ISSUE AND THAT, TO PREVENT ANY RECURRENCES OF SUCH BEHAVIOR, NIELSEN HIMSELF WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE ILO MEETING THIS YEAR. ON ORIT, AAKJAER SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF THREE (CARIBBEAN, NORTH AMERICAN AND LATIN AMERICAN) REGIONAL ORGANIZATION IN THE AMERICAS MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE AFL-CIO. NIELSEN ALSO BELIEVES THAT ALL ELEMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION MOVEMENT (INCLUDING THE AIFLD) SHOULD BE ABLE TO COOPERATE IN ASSISTING THE LATIN AMERICAN MOVEMENTS.

3) AAKJAER FELT THAT THE SWEDES HAD LEFT BAL HARBOUR A BIT DISGRUNTLED OVER FACT THAT LITTLE COCRETE IMPROVEMENT ON ISSUES HAD BEEN ACHIEVED. AAKJAER SUGGESTED THAT THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DUE TO GRAND EXPECTATIONS THE SWEDES TOOK WITH THEM TO FLORIDA. THE DANES, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD NO GREAT EXPECTATION OTHER THAN A GENUINE INTEREST IN IMPROVING THEIR RELATIONS WITH THEIR AMERICAN FRIENDS.

4) COMMENT: ORIGINAL IMPRESSION, BASED ON HURRIED CONVERSATION (SEE REFTTEL), THAT NIELSEN VISIT HAD BEEN REWARDING, HAS BEEN CONFIRMED. BUT IN LIGHT OF AAKJAER'S COMMENTS, SOME DOUBT WITH REGARD TO DEPTH OF THE "DIALOGUE" SEEMS JUSTIFIED. THERE ALSO MAY HAVE BEEN SOME BREAKDOWN IN COMMUNICATION, FOR EXAMPLE, ON ORIT.  
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## Message Attributes

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